



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

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## Mexico

### Solid Wood Products

## Mexico Announces an Extension of the Emergency Standard for Wood Packaging Materials of 6 Months

2004

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**Report Highlights:**

On May 25, 2003 the Mexican Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) announced in the *Diario Oficial* (Mexico's Federal Register) that the emergency phytosanitary standard to regulate Mexican solid wood products used as packaging material (NOM-EM-144-SEMARNAT-2003) will be valid for an additional six months, starting on May 27, 2004. Despite its emergency nature, NOM-144 is only being partially implemented at present and is not expected to adversely impact U.S. trade in wood packing materials.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Mexico [MX1]  
[MX]

**Introduction:** This report summarizes an official announcement published in Mexico's "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register) on May 25, 2004.

**Disclaimer:** This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcements and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulations in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulations or announcements as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

**Executive Summary:** On May 25, 2004, the Mexican Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) published in the *Diario Oficial* (Mexico's "Federal Register") an extension of the validity of the NOM-EM-144-SEMARNAT-2003, an emergency regulation which outlines guidelines affecting Mexican solid wood products used as packaging material for exports. NOM-EM-144 was originally published on November 26, 2003 (see MX4502). According to this announcement, this extension is based on the fact that the emergency circumstances that gave rise to its original publication remain in effect (i.e., that no non-emergency phytosanitary regulations exist). The extension will be in effect for six months starting on May 27, 2004. Despite its emergency nature, NOM-144 is only being partially implemented at present and is not expected to adversely impact U.S. trade in wood packing materials (see MX4043).

**Title:** Announcement of extension of validity of the Mexican Emergency Official Standard NOM-EM-144-SEMARNAT, which establishes the technical specifications of phytosanitary measure (treatment) and the use of the identity mark that ensures compliance, for the solid wood packing that is used in the international trade, published November 26 2003.

**Type of Rule:** Emergency Standard

**Products affected:** Pallets, boxes, cases, packing blocks, crates, drums, load boards and skids, among others.

### Important Dates

**1. Publication Date:** May 25, 2004

**2. Effective Date:** May 27, 2004

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